

REMARKS

The present amendment is being submitted in accordance with the telephonic interview of January 28, 2004.

The Examiner has rejected claims 7, 9, 24, 31, 38, 52, and 59 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The Examiner rejected claims 1 - 4, 11 - 14, 18 - 21, 25 - 28, 32 - 35, 39 - 42, 46 - 49 and 53 - 56 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over PERRIN et al. (RUNEQUEST). The Examiner rejected claims 5, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30, 36, 37, 43, 44, 50, 51, 57, and 58 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over PERRIN et al. in view of YOSHIKAWA et al. Claims 6, 8 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over PERRIN et al. in view of YOSHIKAWA et al. in further view of PETERSON et al. Finally, claims 7, 9, 17, 24, 31, 38, 45, 52, and 59 have also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over PERRIN et al. in view of YOSHIKAWA et al. in further view of PETERSON et al.

In response to the §112, second paragraph rejections, claims 7, 9, 24, 31, 38, 52, and 59 have been amended. Thus, it is requested that the Examiner withdraw the §112 rejections.

Claim 53 has been amended to remove an extraneous word.

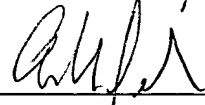
P21330.A06

Any amendments to the claims in this amendment that have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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